performing a function associated with the function call, by:

searching for the substring in the string; and

returning a subset of the string proximate to a location of the substring in the string.

14. The processor-implemented method of claim **13**, wherein:

the function comprises a function to return text before the substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located before the substring in the string.

15. The processor-implemented method of claim **13**, wherein:

the function comprises a function to return text after the substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located after the substring in the string.

16. The processor-implemented method of claim **13**, wherein:

the function comprises a second search string attribute, the second search string attribute identifying a second substring to be identified in the string;

the function comprises a function to return text between the substring and the second substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located between the substring and the second substring in the string.

17. An electronic device, comprising:

a display configured to display content; and

at least one processor communicatively coupled to the display, wherein the at least one processor comprises instructions to:

receive, via a graphical user interface (GUI) of a spreadsheet application, a function call, the function call comprising:

a source string attribute, the source string attribute identifying a string;

a search string attribute, the search string attribute identifying a substring to be identified in the string;

perform a function associated with the function call, by:

searching for the substring in the string; and

returning a subset of the string proximate to a location of the substring in the string.

18. The electronic device of claim **17**, wherein:

the function comprises a function to return text before the substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located before the substring in the string.

19. The electronic device of claim **17**, wherein:

the function comprises a function to return text after the substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located after the substring in the string.

20. The electronic device of claim **17**, wherein:

the function comprises a second search string attribute, the second search string attribute identifying a second substring to be identified in the string;

the function comprises a function to return text between the substring and the second substring; and

the subset of the string that is returned comprises a portion of the string that is located between the substring and the second substring in the string.

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